Overworking of Labourers in I.T./Bio-technology Sectors

1059. SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the labour employed in the Information Technology/Bio-technology sectors are over worked;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are no requirements and timings for the employees working therein; and

(d) if so, whether Government would issue necessary directions stipulating working conditions for labourers working in Information Technology/Bio-technology sectors?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) to (d) The provisions under the Factories Act, 1948 concerning hours of work under Chapter VI are applicable to the workers working in Information Technology and Bio-technology Sectors. The benefits of these provisions prescribing weekly hours, weekly holidays, daily hours, intervals for rest, spread over, prohibition of overlapping shifts and payment of extra wages for overtime are available to labourers working in Information Technology/Bio-technology Sectors.

Exemption to Karnataka Handloom Development Corporation from EPF/PF Act

1060. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested the Centre to exempt Karnataka Handloom Development Corporation from the purview of EPF and PF Act, 1952, since the handloom weavers have been covered under the Contributory Thrift Fund Scheme, 1981, where the weavers get the same benefits, except pension; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Centre's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Karnataka has recommended the exemption sought by M/s Karnataka Handloom Development